

The Times-Di

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By Times-Di

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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1912.

WHOM WILL YOU PUT IN THE CAB?

Richmond has been pulling up the rear for a long time on a narrow gauge government track. At last the old engine has been discarded. It was not up-to-date; it had antiquated machinery; it plodded along; it could not make good time. Now a new track has been laid down and a modern engine has been put on. All that is necessary to run Richmond successfully are five good engineers who know how to run it, who have good recommendations, and who will keep up with the schedule and not put on the brakes just when they ought to put on more steam.

It is simply a question of engineers, this Administrative Board question. In other words, shall the people of Richmond put in the cab to run their government five engineers who know nothing about the new engine and who are incompetent to run it? Or shall we put in five men who do know how and who are qualified to do the work? Shall we have five demagogues in the cab or five men who will be on the job? Shall we allow an incompetent minority to choose officials to engineer our new government, to whom no business man would intrust the management of his business? Shall we choose as our five men at the lever men whose only business is second-hand politics? Like Casey Jones of the famous hauled, the five engineers must mount to the cabin of city administration with orders in their hands, but they must be orders from the people, not from the city employees and their politicians. Unlike Casey Jones, these engineers must stay on the track.

If you want efficient engineers to run Richmond, pay your poll tax today. To-morrow is the last day for paying it, and if you don't pay it you can't vote for the Administrative Board. If you are in favor of making the new government of Richmond one that will make no steps before reaching efficiency and prosperity, pay your poll tax and vote. If you are in favor of turning the city government into a midnight freight, which makes a lot of noise, but covers little distance, don't vote. Unless the two-thirds of the citizens of Richmond who have not qualified to vote pay their poll taxes to-morrow, the time that Richmond will make under incompetent administration will be so slow that the cows will walk into the train and bite the passengers.

Your poll tax must be paid to-day. It isn't up to the other fellow. It's up to you.

WHAT SYNDICALISM MEANS.

The small riot in Union Square, New York, when revolutionary members of the International Workers of the World tore down the American flag from the platform upon which Socialist speakers were addressing an audience, on May 1, or Labor Day, emphasizes the wide spread of the so-called syndicalist doctrines in this country and England. The English coal strike was partly a syndicalist undertaking, and the Lawrence strike was conducted by the Workers of the World, who represent these ideas in the United States. The attack on the Socialists demonstrates, if demonstration were necessary, how far this movement is from its older doctrinal forbear, and from trades unionism. Yet by many the terms are used interchangeably, without an idea of how much more radical than all other labor movements is this new claimant for revolutionary descent. The word syndicalism has been incorporated into the English language from the French. It is derived from the French Syndicat, the name in that country for trade union, but the derivative is a perversion of the original—trades union progress—what it comprehends and signifies.

In a recent address Mr. Lloyd George declared in effect that syndicalism was so opposed to socialism that the socialist might be employed as a policeman against the syndicalists and vice versa. That was an exaggerated and misleading view, for it is well known that, taking them as a whole, both the socialists and the syndicalists oppose legitimate resort to force in suppressing disorder. Also, it is a fact that there are extreme syndicalists who are syndicalists, and syndicalists who are ultra-socialists as the latter are differentiated from pure Marx socialists. Syndicalists are individual members of trades unions that are both socialist and syndicalist, but this does not apply to the general proposition of syndicalism and sympathy, propaganda and aims. These trades movements are, however, a negligible factor and force. The average socialist, as distinct from the perverted variants of socialism, would, broadly speaking, create a gigantic and universal system of state control of industry. He at least professes to believe that such a condition would benefit all humanity, and, in the majority of cases, we dare

say, is, in the lights before him, sincere. He is largely an idealist and altruist, who recognizes some duty to others than himself, no matter by what impracticable and irrational methods he would seek to perform that duty. In addition he aspires to succeed through representative and parliamentary forms of government—through political organization. The basic doctrine of the syndicalists, who are represented in this country by the "Industrial Workers of the World," is the destruction of the profits of capital in order that the workmen may take over all industries for themselves.

Syndicalism holds the dogma that each trades union should become the owner and controller of the industry in which its members are engaged. It represents the idea of any legislation antagonistic to that contention, as shown in this declaration of one of its leaders in England: "We claim that no 610 men elected to Parliament from various geographical areas can possibly have the requisite knowledge to properly direct the productive and distributive capacity of the nation. The men and the women who actually work in the various industries should be persons best capable of organizing them." On its face, and segregated from all other tenets of syndicalism, the contention seems sound. But, tested by the dogma in question, it means that syndicalism would turn over industry and capital to predatory exploitation. It is an insidious plea for annihilating capitalist and property interests under the cloak of advocacy of co-operative and profit-sharing industry.

The British economist, Hewins, synthesized the movement most aptly and all embracingly when, in a speech in the House of Commons, he asserted that syndicalism was not logically a form of socialism or of trades unionism, "but was a peculiarly savage, intensified and destructive individualism and selfishness." Aside from the fact that the vast majority of the trades unionists in this country, and the more intelligent leaders of the British strike, despite conversion of many of the latter's followers, repudiate syndicalism, the foundational antagonism between syndicalism and trades unionism is most conclusively testified to in the charge of the Industrial Workers that a practical alliance exists between the American Federation of Labor and the capitalists. Of course, there is no such alliance in form and terms, but it is obvious that the fundamental interests of the trades unionists and the capitalists are closely allied in antagonism to and conflict with the destructive, greedy policies, theories, purposes and methods of syndicalism.

As to the future of syndicalism, about which there is a great deal of speculation just at present, we think that so far as the United States is concerned, it atones itself morally in the Lawrence strike. Its leaders from the outside, masquerading as Industrial Workers and socialists, over-leaped themselves. The condition of a material to work upon which was for the most part alien made the preparation of their dogma comparatively easy, and in their success and exultation, they forgot all caution and disclosed the cloven hoof recklessly and defiantly, to be seen and known by all men. They awakened all thoughtful men of both the capitalist and the working classes, not only to the monstrous economic absurdity of syndicalism, but to the menace it carries to society, to law and to order, and to representative institutions. The final fruit cannot but be to draw employer and employee closer together, and establish a better understanding between labor and capital, under the operation and influence of the law of self-protection—mutual protection in truth. Certainly of that there is abundant and gratifying promise!

AN UNREPRESENTATIVE PRIMARY.

Massachusetts' farcical presidential primary emphasizes the experience of all the States which have adopted such a form of presidential primary, that only a small proportion of the electorate takes the trouble to vote. The use made of such a primary proves that it is an unrepresentative political institution of the most undemocratic possibilities. The certainty that only a small proportion of the electorate will participate in even so important a primary as this, which helps to nominate the Chief Magistrate of the republic, causes it to lend itself easily to the machinations of corruption. Aggression on the part of a few unscrupulous men, coupled with the indifference of the great majority, makes such a primary do everything but register the popular will.

In Nebraska the other day the triumphant candidate, Roosevelt, received only one-fourth as many votes as Taft, the regular nominee of the Republican party, rolled up on the presidential ballot in 1908. Champ Clark, the Democratic victor, polled only one-sixth as many votes as did Bryan in the November balloting of 1908.

In Illinois, Roosevelt could muster only 25 per cent of the vote cast for the Taft electors of 1908, and the total for all candidates total up to only 50 per cent. Who can say that the other half of the Republican voters were fairly represented, or even represented at all? In Pennsylvania, where Roosevelt slugged everybody else out of the ring, he polled but 26 per cent of the vote which the Republican presidential candidate regularly got.

In Massachusetts, Taft, Roosevelt and La Follette received a total of 147,717 votes, while Taft, as the Re-

publican nominee in 1908, received 265,966 votes. Even Frothingham, the losing Republican nominee for the governorship in the fall of 1911, secured 296,795 votes. The same thing is true of the Democrats, even though it is alleged that many of them voted with the Republicans, under the loose and defective primary law of the Old Bay State. Clark and Wilson polled together 23,169 votes, as against the 155,513 that Bryan, a weak presidential nominee, carried in 1908. Foss, the Democrat who won the governorship in this fall of 1911, got 214,897 votes, or 185,788 more votes than both Democratic candidates in the presidential primary this week. In fact, if we consider the 1911 gubernatorial election as a fair basis of strength of the two parties, then in Tuesday's primary there were about 60,000 Republicans who did not go to the polls in Massachusetts, and 185,788 Democrats who stayed at home and let 23,169 other Democrats constitute the party in the balloting.

The net results of the presidential primaries so far have been confusion, deception, misrepresentation of the popular will and corrupt manipulation. The system is peck-marked with defects and dangers. The presidential primary is not a popular instrument; it is a political instrument. It substitutes small majorities for large majorities; in many cases it replaces the deliberate verdict of the majority with the snap judgment of the minority. It is the very reverse of what its creators designed it for. In its wake it has left misuse, misunderstanding and misrepresentation.

A WORD TO EMPLOYERS.

If you employ men, no matter how many or how few, ask them to pay their poll taxes to-day or to-morrow. Give them enough time off to go to the City Hall and do it. Such a step will be in the interest of no candidate, but it will be for the interest of the city only. If the electorate is enlarged to-day and to-morrow, a competent and businesslike Administrative Board can be elected to carry on the business of the city as a business proposition and not as a grab-bag. A better government for Richmond means more and better business for Richmond. The experience of municipalities is that the better a city is governed, the greater will be its volume of business. Cities which have good government grow fast, because people come to well-governed cities in preference to those which are ill-governed. Tell your employees that if they perform their duty to the city they have nothing to lose and much to gain in the long run. Don't try to persuade them to vote for any man or set of men, but do use your influence with them to get them to qualify to vote.

LET COLORED PEOPLE UNITE.

The colored citizens of Richmond do not show great wisdom in bringing before the community two appeals for assistance almost in the same week. On May 7, the Richmond Hospital, an institution for the colored sick, will begin a campaign for \$10,000 with which to erect a new building to increase the capacity of the present structure, which is overcrowded. Between May 20 and 25, a rally will be held to raise \$20,000 for the construction of a monument to the faithful negro servants of the city. In both cases assistance from interested and benevolent white citizens will be asked. It must be obvious that with such a division of appeal, both designs will not be helped to any great extent. Richmond people are charitable and they are keenly alive to the duty of helping the members of a dependent race, but it is certain their generosity will not be able to contribute to these movements in the proportion the ambitious promoters expect.

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"Kindly return my lock of hair," a North Carolina girl wrote to a former admirer in Richmond the other day, and he answered: "All right. Do you want the dark lock or the one you gave me when you were a blonde?"

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

He Couldn't Tell a Lie.
George Washington, the school books say, could never tell a lie. Although he was a married man, but they don't tell us why. We'd like to know the inside facts and how it was foretold. That George could never get along by sticking to the truth.

It was a harmless and inoffensive little want ad, neatly and modestly worded, we thought, and it eventually jarred our latent sensibilities into a sudden realization of the truth of the old-time adage to the effect that it pays to advertise. We made only one mistake. We did not specify the hour. We learned at 5 o'clock that full nine-tenths of the juvenile male population of our fair city is engaged in the lucrative though strenuous occupation of relieving lawns of their whiskers.

At 5:15 a full fledged baseball game had been organized on said lawn by eighteen candidates for the job, and the milkman was essaying the role of umpire. The crowd of juvenile onlookers was the largest we have ever seen outside of the league games. There was a sparring match going on in the back yard, a juvenile fire department was putting out an imaginary fire on our roof, various and sundry neighbors were appearing in their pajamas, front porches and threatening to call the wagon, ancient and honorable lawnmowers were stacked in military style in the street, impeding all early traffic, and various lawnmowers were up and down the cement walk were in progress.

We were awakened by receiving in the bit of the stomach a stray baseball which had wandered through the second story window and picked out the kid with the dirtiest face, for he seemed to show a closer relationship with the job than any of the others. And was, to all appearances, a true son of the cutting, and since then we have had seventeen others, and candidate No. 18 is due on the job next morning.

May Days.

The doggone school clock stands dead still.
The hands don't move a bit.
It seems like sixty years until
It's time for school to quit.
Some one passed out a good bum
And wrote "Time flies," that's all.
For just about this time of year
It doesn't even crawl.

Voice of the People

The Risk in Commission Government.
To the Editor of The Times-Di:
Sir—The moral risk which every insurance company has to reckon with must be taken into consideration by government by commission. Otherwise it has its parallel in the Titanic drama of St. Thomas, More.

It is strictly utopian to hope to get the best man to discharge the often-times onerous and ungrateful task imposed by public office. Yet, with a full knowledge of the facts, as set forth in this respect, Richmond has adventured upon a reform in her political condition by the commission plan. In the administration of such a system, the maximum and minimum expense obtain. The difference between the maximum and minimum is governed by the law of Rob Roy, as set forth by Wordsworth.

Abe Martin

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Some reasons why the bill should be enacted speedily are:
1. Much time must elapse before any well considered governmental or inter-governmental change can be effected in laws requiring life-saving appliances at sea.
2. More stringent requirements as to such appliances are demanded, have been embodied in other bills, and will sooner or later be enacted.
3. Less attention has hitherto been devoted to the prevention of death in case of loss of the ship than to the prevention of foundering.
4. Steamship experts know more, and can quickly learn more, than legislative committees will ever know about life-saving appliances.
5. Steamship experts need stimulus, not only during the few weeks that follow a "Titanic" disaster, but during every week in every year.
6. Every passenger is entitled to know just what provision is made for his safety.
7. He is entitled to receive this information authoritatively, currently, and without need to rely upon journalistic enterprise.
8. At present he can, but seldom does, deduce the information from the mass of data contained in seldom read notices posted on board.
9. This bill is noncontroversial.
10. If enacted, it would enforce itself, because false statements knowingly advertised or printed on the

THE ANNUAL JOKE.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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BOSS—By the way, were there many people at your grandmother's funeral yesterday?"
OFFICE BOY—"Several thousand, sir."

An Appeal to the Fruit Growers of

Piedmont Section.

To the Editor of The Times-Di:

Sir—I noticed an article in the Nelson County Times, copied from The Times-Di

stating that the fruit growers of Winchester, Va., were going to send a large delegation to Washington urging the passage of the Sulzer bill, No. 2143, regulating the pack and ship of the apple barrel.

was present at the meeting of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures on the 16th of April, 1912.

Mr. Sulzer, the author of the Sulzer bill, after having heard the objections raised by the fruit growers from Nelson and Albemarle counties, said that he introduced the bill at the request of the New York commission merchants and grocers. He further remarked that he had no intention of injuring the fruit growers when he wrote the bill, but since he had heard that it did injure them, he was convinced that it did injure them, and he asked the committee to make alterations in the bill.

Should this bill pass and become a law, the people who live in the Piedmont section, where the finest apples are grown in the State, would suffer a great loss, as such apples are sold in Winchester, Grimes's Golden, and apples of that size would have to take the second and third place, whereas the

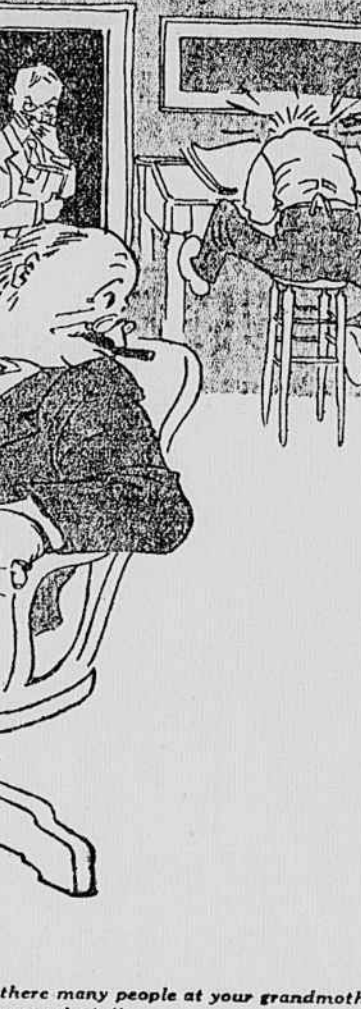
Ben Davis, a very inferior apple (which is largely grown around Winchester), could be put in the first place, and the apple growers of the Piedmont section to receive this bill, as it will injure our best apples and mean thousands of dollars' loss to us.

The Virginia standard apple barrel is the same as the regular export flour barrel, that is, twenty-seven and one-half inch stave, sixty-four inch bulge, seventeen and one-eighth inches head, and holding three bushels. Canada exports her apples in the twenty-seven and one-half inch stave barrel also, and she is our principal competitor in the European market. Virginia apples have a fine reputation in England. The staves for the flour and apple barrels are made at the same time. The No. 1 staves are used for flour at a higher price and the No. 2 staves for apple barrels at a lower price. The No. 2 staves make a No. 1 apple barrel, filling all requirements, if the twenty-eight and one-half inch stave barrel becomes the standard for apple barrels, the fruit grower would have to use the No. 1 as well as the No. 2 staves for his barrels at a higher price, as the No. 2 staves could not be used for the flour barrel, being too long. On the other hand, the miller who uses the twenty-seven and one-half inch stave barrel would have to pay more for his No. 1 staves, as the stave manufacturer would have to put the No. 2 grade in the truck staves, not being able to sell them to the apple growers, because the stave

THE WRECK OF THE TITANIC.

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QUERIES & ANSWERS.

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The Wreck of the Titanic.

Out across the harbor bay steamed the Titanic. And those who watched from afar said she was magnificent. Up to date in every respect, with millions of dollars on her deck. Little thinking of a wreck—This Titanic.

Onward through the blue sea plowing, billows tossing, billows bowing. Went this mighty monarch in her pride. The proudest ship upon the line. Beautiful Titanic.

But oh man, in light of Heaven how small! An iceberg with a solid wall. From the Arctic Sea did float. And stood in the path of this mighty boat. Doomed the Titanic.

No gleam of light was on the sea. To warn the proud ship of her destiny. One fearful crash and her doom was sealed. It tore from her sides the plates of steel. Down went the Titanic.

"Lower the lifeboats!" the captain cried. "Take women and children from either side. But let every man remain on board. Till women and children are safely saved." Farewell Titanic.

I have heard of men in bloody strife. Who upon the battle field gave up life. But a braver lot never died. Than those now drifting with the ocean's tide—Noble crew.

Down, down beneath the foaming surge. The mermaids sing her funeral dirge. Down on the bottom of the great Atlantic. Now peacefully rests the proud Titanic. Sleep on, Titanic! CHAS. T. LOVELACE. South Boston, Va.

Mr. Morgan's Address.

Will you give Mr. J. P. Morgan's home address? NEW KENT.

Write to the city editor of such papers as you would care to work on.

Newspaper Position.

To whom should I apply for position as reporter on a paper? T. L. P.

Write to the city editor of such papers as you would care to work on.

National State and City Bank

Richmond, Virginia. Solicits Your Account. Capital, \$1,000,000. Surplus, \$600,000.